

# Fiscal Note

*Fiscal Services Division*



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**HF 161** – Sexual Violence Prevention, School Human Growth Curricula (LSB1824YH)  
Analyst: Jocelyn Gerrietts (Phone: (515)725-2249) ([jocie.gerrietts@legis.iowa.gov](mailto:jocie.gerrietts@legis.iowa.gov))  
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## **Description**

**House File 161** makes four changes to the Iowa Code regarding the human development curriculum provided in K-12 schools. The first change is to amend Iowa Code chapter [256.9\(46\)](#) to include reference to developmentally appropriate, as well as age-appropriate, materials to be provided by the Department. This section does not have fiscal impact. The next two sections would require the Director of the Department of Education to use federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) funds to provide for training for school districts in the recognition and prevention of child sexual abuse and to adopt rules establishing that continuing education in these matters would qualify for license renewal credit. The last section, which requires that school districts include instruction on sexual assault awareness and prevention in their human development curriculum, is the primary source of fiscal impact to school districts.

## **Background**

Current Code provisions require that the Department make available to school districts examples of age-appropriate materials and resources having to do with physical and verbal sexual advances, but not specifically regarding sexual abuse or sexual abuse reporting. Existing law also requires that school districts provide age-appropriate instruction regarding self-esteem, stress management, and domestic abuse, among other related topics.

The Title IV funds referred to in section two of the Bill are currently obligated under the Department's ESSA implementation plan to create a clearinghouse of evidence-based programs for fine arts, school librarians, gifted education, and physical education. The Department would need to alter its ESSA plan to allow these funds to go to school districts to purchase curricula and professional development materials related to the required subjects.

## **Assumptions**

- The Department of Education would need to alter its federal ESSA plan.
- School districts will adopt one of the known curricula regarding child sexual abuse to fulfill the requirement of section four. Estimates of cost were obtained by the Department of Education from vendor websites.

## **Fiscal Impact**

The Department of Education and Board of Educational Examiners report that there is no fiscal impact to including materials regarding child sexual abuse in their sample curriculum materials or in including child sexual abuse training as an option for continuing education, as required in sections one and three of the Bill.

In order to use Title IV funds for a statewide professional development program as specified in section two, the Department would need to alter its ESSA plan, and it would be unable to offer the previously planned clearinghouse.

There are multiple options available for school districts to choose from to fulfill the child sexual abuse curriculum and professional development requirements. It is not known which curriculum option districts may choose to utilize. The table below reflects some known options and estimated total cost if all school districts choose a single curriculum.

**Table 1 – Costs of Child Sexual Abuse Awareness Curricula**

| <b>School Level</b> | <b>Number of Schools</b> | <b>Curriculum</b>                           | <b>Number of Teachers</b> | <b>Cost Per School</b>                           | <b>Total (All Schools)</b> |
|---------------------|--------------------------|---|---------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| Elementary          | 708                      | Care for Kids – Healthy Relationships       | 15                        | \$ 2,050   | \$ 1,451,400               |
| Elementary          | 708                      | Think First and Stay Safe (Curriculum only) | Any number                | \$ 9,780   | \$ 6,924,240               |
| Middle and High     | 621                      | Love Is Not Abuse (free manual)             | Any number                | \$ 0   | \$ 0                       |
| Middle and High     | 621                      | Green Dot                                   | Variable                  | Variable – Determined by individual school quote | Unknown                    |
| Middle and High     | 621                      | Safe Dates                                  | 25                        | \$ 8,700   | \$ 5,402,700               |

### **Sources**

Department of Education  
LSA analysis and calculation

/s/ Holly M. Lyons

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The fiscal note for this Bill was prepared pursuant to Joint Rule 17 and the Iowa Code. Data used in developing this fiscal note is available from the Fiscal Services Division of the Legislative Services Agency upon request.

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